

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT L 00085 270547Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 /016 W
-----046704 280047Z /70

R 261401Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO COMSEVENTHFLT
INFO CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI
CTF SEVEN FIVE
SECSTATE WASHDC 7240

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0085

E.O. 11652: ADS - DECLASSIFY MARCH 31, 1978
TAGS: OCLR, MP
SUBJECT: PROPOSED CHANGE IN SHIPS' VISITS TO MAURITIUS

REF: COMSEVENTHFLT (P 250336Z JAN 78) - NOTAL

1. REF A CITED IN REFTEL (USDAO PARIS 171850Z JAN 78) NOT
RECEIVED PORT LOUIS. PLEASE REPEAT.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT VISIT IN MAURITIUS BY FOUR U.S. NAVY
SHIPS AT ONCE, OVER THE MARCH 12 INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS,
WILL NOT LEND APPEARANCE OF ROUTINE, OPERATIONAL PORT CALL.
FURTHERMORE, FRENCH EMBASSY HAS PNFORMED US THAT TWO FRENCH NAVY
SHIPS, LANDING SHIP "OURAGAN" AND FRIGATE "COMMANDANT BOURDAIS,"
ARE SCHEDULED TO VISIT PORT LOUIS MARCH 10-15, AND IT IS LIKELY
THAT SOVIET UNION AND POSSIBLY INDIA WILL ALSO HAVE ONE OR TWO
SHIPS EACH VISITING DURING THIS TIME FRAME. GIVEN THIS NUMBER
OF EXPECTED SHIPS IN SMALL PORT WITH LIMITED FACILITIES, IT IS
PROBABLE THAT MAURITIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT APPROVE OUR
REQUEST FOR SIMULTANEOUS FOUR SHIP VISIT.

3. EMBASSY WOULD PREFER ORIGINAL SCHEDULE, WITH REUNION VISITS
REINSTATED. IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE, SUGGEST AS ALTERNATIVE THAT
ONLY TWO USN SHIPS AT A TIME VISIT HERE, BUT THAT VISIT OF USS
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FOX BE MAINTAINED TO COINCIDE WITH MARCH 12 CELEBRATIONS.
IF ALL FOUR SHIPS NEED FOUR DAYS IN PORT, PERHAPS FRIGATES COULD
VISIT CIRCA MARCH 7-11 AND FOX AND HASSAYAMPA MARCH 11-15.
KEELEY

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NNN

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